

SENATE BILL 3640
By Kilby

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49,
Chapter 7; Title 49, Chapter 8 and Title 49,
Chapter 9, relative to student admissions.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-7-101, is amended by adding the following language as new subsection (a) and redesignating the existing subsections accordingly:

(a) As used in this section, unless the context otherwise requires:

(1) "Entering freshman" means a student entering a postsecondary institution, who has not attempted any semester hours at any postsecondary institution after graduating from high school, completing high school in a home school program, or obtaining a GED; and

(2) "Regional accrediting association" means:

- (A) The Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools;
- (B) The New England Association of Schools and Colleges;
- (C) The North Central Association of Colleges and Schools;
- (D) The Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges;
- (E) The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools; or
- (F) The Western Association of Schools and Colleges.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-7-101, is further amended by adding the following language as new subsections (d) and (e):

(d) Notwithstanding any provision of subsection (c) to the contrary, the institutions of the University of Tennessee system and the state university and

community college system shall require that all entering freshmen who are not Tennessee residents meet all academic standards required for in-state students and:

(1) Graduate from an out-of-state high school that is:

(A) A public school of the state or country in which it is located;

(B) Accredited by an accrediting agency recognized by the

Tennessee department of education;

(C) Accredited by a regional accrediting association;

(D) Accredited by the Commission on International and Trans-

Regional Accreditation or one of its allied accrediting agencies;

(E) A nonpublic school approved by the state or country in which it is located; or

(F) A United States department of defense accredited school.

(2) Complete high school in a home school in accordance with the laws of the state in which the student completed high school; or

(3) Obtain a GED.

(e) Notwithstanding any provision of subsection (c) to the contrary, the institutions of the University of Tennessee system and the state university and community college system shall give preference in admissions to Tennessee residents who are equally qualified relative to nonresident students.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2006, the public welfare requiring it, and apply to students seeking admission to an institution of the University of Tennessee system or the state university and community college system as an entering freshman on or after that date.